

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please cancel claim 1, and add new claims 32-83 as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1-31. (Cancelled)

32. (New) A method of selecting a compatible processor for addition to a multiprocessor computer, the multiprocessor computer having at least one current processor and having at least one additional location in which a new processor can be added, the method comprising:

executing a computer program on the multiprocessor computer directing each of the at least one current processor to execute at least one instruction that allows the identity of each current processor to be determined, the computer program providing identifying information indicative of the identity of each current processor;

obtaining processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes the at least one current processor;

executing a computer program comparing the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor; and

providing information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer.

33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the act of obtaining processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor comprises:

storing processor compatibility information in a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer, the processor compatibility information identifying processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor; and

accessing the stored processor compatibility information.

34. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the act of providing information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer comprises using the computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer to provide the multiprocessor computer with information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor.

35. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein the act of executing a computer program comparing the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information comprises executing a computer program using the computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer to compare the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information.

36. (New) The method of claim 33 wherein the computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer is connected to the multiprocessor computer system via the Internet.

37. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the act of obtaining processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor comprises:

storing processor compatibility information in the multiprocessor computer, the processor compatibility information identifying processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor; and

accessing the stored processor compatibility information.

38. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the act of executing a computer program comparing the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information comprises executing a computer program

on the multiprocessor computer that compares the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information.

39. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the act of providing information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer comprises displaying information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor.

40. (New) A method of selecting a compatible processor for addition to a multiprocessor computer, the multiprocessor computer having at least one current processor and having at least one additional location in which a new processor can be added, the method comprising:

executing a computer program on the multiprocessor computer directing each of the at least one current processor to execute at least one instruction that allows the identity of each current processor to be determined, the computer program providing identifying information indicative of the identity of each current processor;

obtaining processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes the at least one current processor;

providing identifying information indicative of the identity of the new processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer;

executing a computer program comparing the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor, the computer program further comparing the identifying information for the new processor with the processors determined to be compatible with each current processor; and

providing an indication whether or not the new processor is compatible before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer.

41. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein the act of obtaining processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor comprises:

storing processor compatibility information in a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer, the processor compatibility information identifying processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor; and

accessing the stored processor compatibility information.

42. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein the act of executing a computer program comparing the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information comprises executing a computer program using the computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer to compare the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information.

43. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein the act of executing the computer program that compares the identifying information for the new processor with the processors determined to be compatible with each current processor comprises using the computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer to compare the identifying information for the new processor with the processors determined to be compatible with each current processor.

44. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein the act of providing information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer comprises using the computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer to provide the multiprocessor computer with information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor.

45. (New) The method of claim 41 wherein the computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer is connected to the multiprocessor computer system via the Internet.

46. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein the act of obtaining processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor comprises:

storing processor compatibility information in the multiprocessor computer, the processor compatibility information identifying processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor; and

accessing the stored processor compatibility information.

47. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein the act of executing a computer program comparing the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information comprises executing a computer program on the multiprocessor computer that compares the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information.

48. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein the act of executing a computer program that compares the identifying information for the new processor with the processors determined to be compatible with each current processor comprises executing a computer program on the multiprocessor computer that compares the identifying information for the new processor with the processors determined to be compatible with each current processor.

49. (New) The method of claim 40 wherein the act of providing information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer comprises displaying information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor.

50. (New) A system for selecting a new processor for addition to a multiprocessor computer having at least one current processor, the system comprising:

a first component on the multiprocessor computer that determines the identity of each current processor in the multiprocessor computer;

a second component that stores processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor;

a third component coupled to the first and second components to accesses the processor compatibility information using the identity of each current processor in the multiprocessor computer to determine the processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor; and

a fourth component coupled to the third component that provides information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer.

51. (New) The system of claim 50 wherein the first component causes each current processor to execute an instruction that returns a value identifying the current processor.

52. (New) The system of claim 51 wherein the instruction executed by each current processor is a CPUID instruction.

53. (New) The system of claim 50 wherein the first component transmits to each current processor at least one set of instructions for execution and determines the identity of each current processor in the multiprocessor computer from the results produced by the current processor from execution of the sets of instructions.

54. (New) The system of claim 50 wherein the first component calls operating-system specific system calls to determine the identity of each current processor in the multiprocessor computer.

55. (New) The system of claim 50 wherein the second component comprises a memory that stores processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor.

56. (New) The system of claim 50 wherein the second component comprises a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer, the remote computer being coupled to the multiprocessor computer and storing processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor.

57. (New) The system of claim 56 wherein the remote computer is coupled to the multiprocessor computer via the Internet.

58. (New) The system of claim 50 wherein the third component comprises a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer, the remote computer being coupled to the multiprocessor computer and accessing the processor compatibility information using the identity of each current processor in the multiprocessor computer to determine the processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor.

59. (New) The system of claim 50 wherein the fourth component comprises a display that is operable to display the information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer.

60. (New) A system for selecting a new processor for addition to a multiprocessor computer containing at least one current processor, the system comprising:

    a first component on the multiprocessor computer that determines the identity of each current processor in the multiprocessor computer;

    a second component allowing identifying information to be provided that identifies the new processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer;

    a third component that stores processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor;

    a fourth component coupled to the first, second and third components to compare the identifying information for the new processor with the compatibility information to determine processors that are compatible with each current processor; and

a fifth component that provides an indication whether or not the new processor is compatible before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer.

61. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein the first component causes each current processor to execute an instruction that returns a value identifying the current processor.

62. (New) The system of claim 61 wherein the instruction executed by each current processor is a CPUID instruction.

63. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein the first component transmits to each current processor at least one set of instructions for execution and determines the identity of each current processor in the multiprocessor computer from the results produced by the current processor from execution of the sets of instructions.

64. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein the first component calls operating-system specific system calls to determine the identity of each current processor in the multiprocessor computer.

65. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein the third component comprises a memory that stores processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor.

66. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein the third component comprises a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer, the remote computer being coupled to the multiprocessor computer and storing processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes each current processor.

67. (New) The system of claim 66 wherein the remote computer is coupled to the multiprocessor computer via the Internet.

68. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein the fourth component comprises a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer, the remote computer being coupled to the multiprocessor computer and being operable to compare the identifying information for the new processor with the compatibility information to determine processors that are compatible with each current processor.

69. (New) The system of claim 60 wherein the fifth component comprises a display that displays an indication whether or not the new processor is compatible before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer.

70. (New) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a computer system to use processor compatibility information to select a new processor for addition to a multiprocessor computer containing at least one current processor, by:

executing a computer program on the multiprocessor computer directing each of the at least one current processor to execute at least one instruction that allows the identity of each current processor to be determined, the computer program providing identifying information indicative of the identity of each current processor;

obtaining processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes the at least one current processor;

executing a computer program comparing the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor; and

providing information identifying the processors that are compatible with each current processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer.

71. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 70 wherein the computer program that obtains processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor comprises a computer program that is executed

on a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer and that stores the processor compatibility information.

72. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 70 wherein a second, separate computer program is run to compare the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor.

73. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 70 wherein the computer program that obtains processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a current processor in the multiprocessor computer.

74. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 70 wherein the computer program that compares the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer.

75. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 70 wherein the computer program that compares the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a current processor in the multiprocessor computer.

76. (New) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a computer system to use processor compatibility information to select a new processor for addition to a multiprocessor computer containing at least one current processor, by:

executing a computer program on the multiprocessor computer directing each of the at least one current processor to execute at least one instruction that allows the identity of each current processor to be determined, the computer program providing identifying information indicative of the identity of each current processor;

obtaining processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with a plurality of processors that includes the at least one current processor;

providing identifying information indicative of the identity of the new processor before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer;

executing a computer program comparing the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor, the computer program further comparing the identifying information for the new processor with the processors determined to be compatible with each current processor; and

providing an indication whether or not the new processor is compatible before adding the new processor to the multiprocessor computer.

77. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein the computer program that obtains processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are compatible with the at least one current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer and that stores the processor compatibility information.

78. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein a second, separate computer program is run to compare the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor.

79. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein the computer program that obtains processor compatibility information indicative of processors that are

compatible with the at least one current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a current processor in the multiprocessor computer.

80. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein the computer program that compares the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer.

81. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein the computer program that compares the identifying information for each current processor in the multiprocessor computer with the processor compatibility information to determine the processors that are compatible with each current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a current processor in the multiprocessor computer.

82. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein the computer program that compares the identifying information for the new processor with the processors determined to be compatible with each current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a computer that is remote from the multiprocessor computer.

83. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 76 wherein the computer program that compares the identifying information for the new processor with the processors determined to be compatible with each current processor comprises a computer program that is executed on a current processor in the multiprocessor computer.